

CC

bcc

Subject Fw: Lincoln Downtown Design Guidelines

Kent

I am forward my previously sent message as i mispelled your e mail address.

Tx Mike

---- Original Message ----- From: Mike Schafer

To: kmorgan@lincol.ne.gov

Cc: Marlene Brondel

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 21, 2005 11:17 AM **Subject:** Lincoln Downtown Design Guidelines



Hi Kent

I have reviewed the draft design guidelines, and want to thank the City of Lincoln for considering accessible design issues for people who experience disability.

I also want to take this opportunity to encourage the City of Lincoln to think more expansively as you finalize the design guidelines to include not only ramps to existing and new entrances to buildings, but every aspect of design that is addressed in the draft guidelines.

For example on page 20 Encourage Retail Corner Doors. The first illustration on page 20 looks to me to be very inaccessble to an individual who uses either a wheelchair or power assistevehicle(more commonly know as scooters).

It is important that pedestrian design guidelines address the issues of accessible paths of travel for not only peoply who use wheelchairs et.al, but people who are blind of visually impaired to the degree that obstructions in pedestrian pathways could cause present barriers to some.

When designing Places for Stopping and Viewing, the needs of people who use wheelchairs, et.al need to be considered and accomodated. The same issues are present for the Creation of Successful Outdoor Spaces, Signage, Retail Doors, ground floor retail windows, when designing and constructing security features for buildings, and parking structures, and sky bridges.

We at the League hope that you will consider our suggestions, and include a greater emphasis on universal design that provides access to people who experience all types of disabilities.

As we all know, Lincolnites and Nebraskans in general are an aging population, and one of the side effects of the aging process is that health problems and disability also increase with age.

Thank you!

Mike Schafer

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